is present in the *titin* gene, is characterized by a phenotype that is similar to that of heart failure in humans. Thus, detection of abnormalities in *titin* genes or their expression can be used in methods to diagnose, or to monitor treatment or development of, human heart disease, such as heart failure. For use as references, the human cardiac *titin* cDNA sequence is presented herein as SEQ ID NO:1, while the corresponding protein sequence is presented herein as SEQ ID NO:2.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 7, without prejudice, and amend claim 1 to read as follows.

1. (Amended) A method of determining whether a test subject has, or is at risk of developing, a titin-related disease or condition of the heart, said method comprising obtaining a sample from said test subject and analyzing a nucleic acid molecule of said sample to determine whether the test subject has a mutation in a naturally-occurring *titin* gene, wherein the presence of said mutation is an indication that said test subject has, or is at risk of developing, a titin-related disease of the heart.